

Can I give alcoholic beverages to consumers for free?

Businesses without an ABC license:

No. It is a crime for a business without a license to give alcoholic beverages to a person. [KRS 243.020\(1\)](#), [KRS 243.990](#). It is a crime for a person to drink alcoholic beverages in an unlicensed public place. [KRS 222.202\(2\)](#), [KRS 222.990](#). It is a crime for an unlicensed public business to allow persons to sell, give away or drink alcoholic beverages inside the business. [KRS 243.020\(3\)](#), [KRS 243.990](#).

Businesses with an ABC license:

Generally no. A licensee cannot give away alcoholic beverages for free. [KRS 244.050](#).

A retailer holding a sampling license is permitted to give one (1) ounce of distilled spirits samples per day and six (6) ounces of wine samples per day to a consumer. Free malt beverage samples are prohibited. [KRS 243.0307\(2\)](#).

A distillery holding a sampling license is permitted to give one and three-fourths (1¾) ounces of distilled spirits samples per day to a visitor. [KRS 243.0305\(7\)](#).

A brewery in a wet territory is permitted to give sixteen (16) ounces of malt beverage samples per day to a visitor. [KRS 243.150\(5\)](#).

A microbrewery is permitted to give sixteen (16) ounces of malt beverage samples per day to a visitor. [KRS 243.157\(1\)](#).

A small farm winery in a wet/moist territory is permitted to give six (6) ounces of wine samples per day to a visitor. [KRS 243.155\(2\)](#).